THE

RULES

OF THE

CHARITY-SCHOOLS

BELONGING TO

The Rev. Mr. WESLEY's CHAPEL,

In *West-Street*, near the *Seven-Dials*:

WITH AN

ADDRESS

TO THE

PIOUS and BENEVOLENT.

By THOMAS COKE, L. L. D.

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TO THE

PIOUS and BENEVOLENT.

THE Education of Youth has been univerſally allowed to be of the higheſt importance to mankind. Such being the general opinion of every civilized nation, it has been matter of great ſurprize and concern to many pious perſons, that in our Country, where Religion and Liberty flouriſh, the very principal part of Education, the *Religion* of the Children, has been too much neglected.

This has induced a few who have a ſincere love for the ſouls of mankind, to inſtitute two ſchools, one for thirty-two Boys, the other for twenty Girls, on a religious Plan.

We can bleſs God that we have been ſucceſsful. The Lord has given us a Maſter and Miſtreſs who have the eternal intereſts of the Children deeply at heart. And the fruits have in ſome meaſure been

anſwerable. A few of the Children have experienced the power of converting grace; and many have been awakened to a conſciouſneſs of their want of a Saviour. Nor have we any reaſon to complain, in reſpect to their improvements in the neceſſary acquirements for the preſent life. The Boys are taught (and well taught) Reading, Writing and Arithmetic: and the Girls, Reading, Writing and Plain-work. But we want money: our Subſcriptions fall very ſhort of the expence.

We therefore earneſtly ſolicit the kind aſſiſtance of thoſe, whoſe hearts and abilities unite, to help us in carrying on the laudable Plan we have before us, and the pious end we have in view.

Aid us then by your Subſcriptions: and He who ſhed a thouſand drops of richeſt blood for you, will in due time ſay to you, "Inaſmuch as ye have done it unto the leaſt of theſe, ye have done it unto me."

THOMAS COKE.

Weſt-Street, Seven-Dials, Aug. 31, 1790.

RULES

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TO BE OBSERVED RESPECTING

The SCHOOLS.

I. EVERY perſon ſubſcribing one Guinea per Annum, may keep one Child in the Schools: the other Children ſhall be nominated at the Quarterly Meetings of the Subſcribers.

II. The Boys ſhall be taught Reading, Writing, and Arithmetic: the Girls, Reading, Writing, and Plain-work. All poſſible care muſt be taken of their morals, and ſuch uſeful inſtructions be given them in the principles of religion as their young minds are capable of receiving.

III. The

III. The Maſter and Miſtreſs ſhall begin and end the day with ſinging a hymn and with prayer.

IV. No Children ſhall be admitted into the Schools under the age of ſeven years.

V. The Parents of the Children admitted ſhall duly obſerve the Rules of this Charity, as far as they reſpect them, (which Rules ſhall be read to them at the time of their Children's admiſſion) or forfeit the benefit of their Children's education.

VI. The Children ſhall attend divine worſhip every Lord's-day in the morning and afternoon in the Rev. Mr. *Weſley's* Chapel, in *Weſt-Street, Seven-Dials.*

VII. The Children ſhall be ſupplied with Books out of the Subſcriptions.

VIII. The Children are required to attend at School from nine till twelve in the

the morning, and from two till five in the afternoon.

IX. Every Child that behaves refractory or diſorderly, and continues ſuch conduct after proper admonition, ſhall be diſmiſſed from the School. And if ſuch Child ſo diſmiſſed, was nominated by a Guinea-Subſcriber, the Subſcriber ſhall be informed of the diſmiſſion, and of the cauſe of it, and ſhall have the privilege of nominating another Child.

X. Any Child that is abſent from School for ſeven days ſucceſſively, without notice given and a ſufficient reaſon aſſigned to the Maſter or Miſtreſs reſpectively, ſhall be conſidered as withdrawn, and the vacancy ſhall be filled up.

XI. The Maſter and Miſtreſs ſhall, each of them, keep a Book called *the Abſent-Book*, in which the names of the Children ſhall be inſerted: and they ſhall be called over,

over, at leaſt once in every day; and the abſentees ſhall be marked in the ſaid books reſpectively, for the inſpection of the Viſitors, and of the Quarterly Meeting.

XII. A general meeting of the Subſcribers ſhall be held in the Band-Room of the Rev. Mr. *Weſley's* Chapel in *Weſt-Street*, on the firſt Thurſday immediately after Lady-Day, Midſummer-Day, Michaelmas-Day, and Chriſtmas-Day: at which meeting a Treaſurer and two Viſitors of the Schools ſhall be choſen for the enſuing quarter: Children be received to fill up vacancies, and all orders and regulations be made that may be neceſſary for the good government of the Schools. And notice of each meeting ſhall be ſent to each annual Subſcriber; and all inferior Subſcribers ſhall have full liberty to be preſent.

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TO BE PROPOSED TO THE

PARENTS,

When their CHILDREN are admittted.

I. YOU are to take care to ſend your Children to School in the morning at nine o'clock, and in the afternoon at two o'clock on every School-day, throughout the year: and on every Lord's-day, to the Rev. Mr. *Weſley's* Chapel both in the morning and afternoon.

II. You are to ſee that the faces and hands of your Children be waſhed, their hair combed, and that they be otherwiſe as clean as you can make them, every day.

III. You are not to detain your Children from School on any pretence whatever without an application to the Maſter or Miſtreſs for leave of abſence: and this application is not to be complied with but in caſes of abſolute neceſſity.

IV. You are to take peculiar care of the behaviour of your Children at home, to teach them by example as well as precept. You are, particularly, to correct them (yet with moderation) whenever you detect them in an untruth, or taking the Lord's name in vain. And you muſt remember, that it is your duty to train up your children at home in ſuch a manner, that their experience may prove that "Wiſdom's ways are ways of pleaſantneſs, and all her paths peace."

V. You are not to interfere when correction is given by the Maſter or Miſtreſs. But if you have any cauſe of complaint, your complaint is to be made to one of the viſitors:

viſitors: and if it be juſt, you ſhall meet with due redreſs.

VI. You are to take particular care, that your Children do not run about the ſtreets, or intermingle with bad company. And you are to make them ſenſible that the better their behaviour is, the more likely they are to inſure the kindneſs of their friends.

VII. You are required to attend to all the Rules of this Charity as far as they reſpect you, as a grateful return for the favours granted you by the generous aſſiſtance of the Subſcribers: and in default, you muſt expect that your Children will be diſmiſſed from their reſpective Schools.

FINIS.